

National Swallow Class Association

affiliated to the Royal Yachting association

Minutes of Swallow Class AGM held at ISC on Saturday 13 January 2007

1. Apologies for absence

Richard Keane, Philip Williams , Peter Foggin, Simon Dolin,
Robert Finch,

Marcia Knight, Paul Giles, Nigel Prescott, Chris Smith, James
Vernon , Caroline Clarke, Mike Clarke

Present: 41 members

2. Minutes, matters arising

There were none.

3. Treasurers Report

The treasurer reported on the completion of the new deck mould. Payment of £6200 remains outstanding and the debt will not be cleared by some £1300 even after sale of Premium Bonds purchased with moneys accrued for this purpose.

Subscriptions. The subscription has stood at £25 for Full membership and £5 for Associate membership for a number of years and the Committee suggested that now was the time for an increase. A 10-year project should be set in motion to save for new hull moulds etc

Full membership (for all owners, part owners and those sailing on a regular basis; also any visiting helm in Open meetings, Cowes, championship etc) is to be raised to £35 and Associate membership to £10. A £50 penalty was to be paid by those delaying cash payments. It was pointed out that failure to pay subscriptions invalidated the boat's certificate..

4. Progress of new build

The chairman reported that the new builders Composite Craft in Cowes are poised to produce new 'Ready-to-sail' Swallows. Malcolm Green and Chris Creak have been closely involved with developments. A 3-month build-time

is envisaged.

David Leon questioned of the deck mould measured and was told that it was not the mould but the finished boat that was measured. David Melville pointed to the need for the initial contract with the builder to include a clause that the finished boat must measure. Another question was if the new builder, Composite Craft, had been licensed by the RYA. This will be taken up immediately and completion of payment delayed until RYA acceptance was obtained.

5. Class Rule changes

The following class rule changes were approved :

New Rule - Mould Fee

A mould fee, determined by the NSCA, shall be paid by the boat owner for use of the moulds owned by the NSCA. The mould fee shall be paid to the NSCA, which shall issue a receipt for the fee.

Amended Rule - Crew Numbers

The crew shall consist of not more than three persons unless stated otherwise in the notice of race.

Optional Equipment when Racing New rule – Wireless Communication

Allow wireless communication between approved devices.

Optional Equipment when Racing Amended Rule – Mobile Phones

Mobile phones may be carried. However, while *racing*, the use of a mobile phone or other communication device to obtain information from any outside source other than from the race committee that may help the boat, is prohibited.

Optional Hull Fittings Through-Hull Depth Transducers

One hole in the hull with maximum diameter 52mm for the purpose of fitting a transducer to measure the depth of water.

Spars - Spinnaker Pole

The maximum spinnaker pole length shall be 2500m.

Discussion on the above changes

The Committee has decided the fee for use of the moulds for a

new boat will be £750. This may be reduced if only one mould is used, for example to make a new deck.

The receipt for the mould fee will become part of the mandatory documentation to be submitted to the RYA in order to obtain a Certificate.

The chairman outlined the pro and cons for a 15% longer pole, explaining that while optionally deviating from a strictly one-design class, features of the boat should be gently moved forward. There will be no change in sail dimensions.

Further to the quote from Seldons of a cost of £265 incl. VAT if more than 20 poles were ordered, John Houghton reported that Z-Spars could supply carbon fibre poles complete with Harkon fittings at £168 incl. VAT while the cost of a carbon fibre pole and changing the fittings already in use would be £40.

The motion was passed with 17 boats were in favour of the change to 2.5m poles and 3 against.

6.Update on Events

Cowes Week 4th – 11th August. Social programme was progressing

Championships 7th – 8th July at Bembridge. The chairman urged everyone to attend, particularly as a Dinner in the evening would commemorate the 60th anniversary of the first Swallow built by Tom Thorneycroft of Bembridge.

2008 will be cause to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Stuart Morris's Gold in the 1948 Olympics.

7.Presentation of the Lord Mayor's picture

Presented at the discretion of the Chairman for a boat participating in Cowes Week, the picture this year went to Joanna Brigg and Rachel Wigmore who competed with such huge enthusiasm in the 2006 Bursary Boat

8.Election of new Committee members

Harry Roome and Tom Clarence Smith were elected

The chairman closed the meeting with request to all members to support the Harbour Master and the Conservancy's efforts to protect the harbour we all enjoy by returning the Conservancy's on-line form.

The meeting congratulated the Chairman on his knighthood received recently.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm